

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

106th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 77

March 25, 1999, 8:44 p.m.
Page S-3396 Temp. Record

BUDGET RESOLUTION/Minimum Wage

SUBJECT: Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 2000-2009 . . . S.Con. Res. 20. Kennedy motion to waive the Budget Act for the consideration of the Kennedy amendment No. 195.

ACTION: MOTION REJECTED, 45-53

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S.Con. Res. 20, the Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 2000-2009: will cut the debt held by the public (money that the Federal Government owes to creditors other than itself) in half over 10 years; will fully fund Medicare (all of the President's proposed \$9 billion in Medicare cuts were rejected; as a result, this budget will allow \$20.4 billion more in Medicare spending over the next 10 years); will save the entire \$1.8 trillion in Social Security surpluses over the next 10 years for Social Security; will provide for \$778 billion in net tax relief over the next 10 years (in contrast, the President's budget would increase the tax burden by \$96 billion net over 10 years), and will adhere to the spending restraints (discretionary spending caps and pay-go provisions) of the bipartisan budget agreement as enacted in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and the Taxpayer Reform Act of 1997 (the President's proposed budget, in contrast, would dramatically increase spending in violation of that bipartisan agreement, and would result in \$2.2 trillion more in total Federal debt at the end of 10 years than proposed in this Senate budget).

The Kennedy amendment would express the sense of the Senate that the minimum wage should be increased by 50 cents on September 1, 1999, and by another 50 cents on September 1, 2000 (which would result in a \$6.15 minimum wage), and that the minimum wage should apply in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

After debate, Senator Domenici raised a point of order that the amendment violated section 305(b)(2) of the Budget Act. Senator Kennedy then moved to waive the Budget Act for the consideration of the amendment. Generally, those favoring the motion to waive favored the amendment; those opposing the motion to waive opposed the amendment.

NOTE: A three-fifths majority (60) vote is required to waive the Budget Act. After the failure of the motion to waive, the point of order was upheld and the amendment thus fell.

(See other side)

YEAS (45)			NAYS (53)			NOT VOTING (2)	
Republicans (2 or 4%)	Democrats (43 or 96%)		Republicans (51 or 96%)	Democrats (2 or 4%)		Republicans (2)	Democrats (0)
Smith, Gordon Specter	Akaka	Kerrey	Abraham	Hatch	Baucus	McCain ⁻²	
	Bayh	Kerry	Allard	Helms	Graham	Thomas ⁻²	
	Biden	Kohl	Ashcroft	Hutchinson			
	Bingaman	Landrieu	Bennett	Hutchison			
	Boxer	Lautenberg	Bond	Inhofe			
	Breaux	Leahy	Brownback	Jeffords			
	Bryan	Levin	Bunning	Kyl			
	Byrd	Lieberman	Burns	Lott			
	Cleland	Lincoln	Campbell	Lugar			
	Conrad	Mikulski	Chafee	Mack			
	Daschle	Moynihan	Cochran	McConnell			
	Dodd	Murray	Collins	Murkowski			
	Dorgan	Reed	Coverdell	Nickles			
	Durbin	Reid	Craig	Roberts			
	Edwards	Robb	Crapo	Roth			
	Feingold	Rockefeller	DeWine	Santorum			
	Feinstein	Sarbanes	Domenici	Sessions			
	Harkin	Schumer	Enzi	Shelby			
	Hollings	Torricelli	Fitzgerald	Smith, Bob			
	Inouye	Wellstone	Frist	Snowe			
	Johnson	Wyden	Gorton	Stevens			
	Kennedy		Gramm	Thompson			
			Grams	Thurmond			
			Grassley	Voinovich			
			Gregg	Warner			
			Hagel				

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

Those favoring the motion to waive contended:

This amendment has absolutely nothing to do with the budget.

Those opposing the motion to waive contended:

This Nation is having unprecedented prosperity. However, there are still 11 million minimum-wage workers. Many of them are supporting families and have incomes below the poverty line. This amendment would put the Senate on record as being in favor of ordering employers to give minimum-wage employees a \$1-per-hour pay raise. We urge the adoption of this amendment.